

TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



Sitka Spruce
Picea sitchensis

The Sitka Spruce is a beautiful evergreen tree found in western North America. The slender, needlelike, sharply pointed leaves are bright green above with two white bands beneath. The Sitka spruce has gray bark that can be found flaking in large scales. The four inch cones are cylindrical, pale brown, and hang from the branches. With a narrowly conical shape, the Sitka Spruce grows to 170 feet. This tree is found in moist, coastal lowlands.

Picture courtesy of "Trees" by Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

I can't believe it's already February! Time flies when you're having fun. After the wild winds we experienced in January, I suggest you have your trees inspected by a certified arborist to look for any cracks and splits that may lead to future problems. You may also want to have your trees pruned to reduce some of the wind sail effect. And keep your fingers crossed that we are through the worst of it! If you have damaged trees, or just questions about storm damage, the Department of Natural Resources has free *Trees and Forests Storm Damage* information kits available. To receive a kit, call 1-888-STEWKIT (783-9548) or view on the internet at www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/storm.htm. And to keep your spirits up...I heard a rumor that spring is just around the corner! Sarah

Urban Initiative Grants Awarded

The Washington State Urban and Community Forestry Program (U&CF) is pleased to announce that the Urban Initiative Grants have been awarded to three communities. This grant was available to cities with populations over 35,000; 22 Washington cities were eligible. We received eighteen grant applications, with a total requested amount of \$500,000. The decision was very difficult as all the proposed projects were well presented and very diverse. The following is a list of the grantees and a brief description of their project; all three are receiving a grant of \$30,000 from the U&CF and the US Forest Service. Thank you to all those who applied.

City of Olympia
City of Seattle
City of Yakima

Structural Soil Tree Planting Project
Strategic Plan for Seattle's Urban Forest
Yakima Tree Heritage Exhibit at the Yakima Area Arboretum

UW Arbor Day Fair Wins Award

Congratulations to the University of Washington's Arbor Day Fair! The National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) has awarded the UW College of Forest Resources with the 2000 Celebration Award. This award was given to three programs in the United States that best represent the spirit of the tree planters' holiday. The Arbor Day Fair attracted 5,500 area school children last year, giving them a hands-on educational experience designed to increase their awareness and knowledge of trees, wildlife, and the forest ecosystem. The fair has grown to become a three day event since it began in 1996, and is sponsored by the UW College of Forest Resources Alumni Association. The award will be presented to the Arbor Day Fair during the NADF's 28th Annual Arbor Day Awards Celebration on April 29, in Lincoln City, Nebraska. For more information on the award, visit www.arborday.org, or for more information on the University of Washington's Arbor Day Fair, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

Equinox Environmental Film Festival

The 2nd Annual Equinox Environmental Film Festival is being held April 6-9, at the Sleeping Lady Conference/Retreat, in Leavenworth. This festival includes: the screening of the best films and videos from independent filmmakers, competitive screenings of new works by Northwest Environmental film and video makers, presentations by leading environmental filmmakers and activists, workshops on successful environmental media-making, special screenings for students and teachers, discussions of ways media makers, environmental activists, funders and environmental educators can work together most effectively, and more. Submissions of new works (completed after 1/1/98) are being accepted by the festival until February 29, 2000. For more information on submissions, festival information and pricing, please contact the Equinox Film Festival at (206) 443-7239 or register on the web at www.sleepinglady.com.

Urban Forestry Grants Available for 2000

The 2000 Community Forestry Assistance Grant applications are available. There is approximately \$100,000 available for community forestry projects. The maximum amount to be requested for any project is \$10,000. All grant dollars must be matched on a one-to-one basis with hard dollars or in kind contributions. Eligible grantees include municipalities of any size, nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, and educational institutions. The final application is due March 15, 2000. Obtain a copy on-line at www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/urban.htm, or call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE. To assist in the grant application process, three grant writing workshops will be held in February; Ellensburg on February 2, Spokane on the third, and in Tacoma on the ninth. Please call the TreeLink Hotline for more information.

In the works (continued)

"The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing."

- Abraham Lincoln

Picks and Shovels

TRIVIA: The world consumption of toilet paper accounts for the loss of _____ acres of woodland per day.

(answer is upside down below)

On the Horizon

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to educate citizens and decision-makers about the economic, environmental, psychological and aesthetic benefits of trees and to assist local governments, citizen groups and volunteers in planting and sustaining healthy trees and vegetation wherever people live and work in Washington State.

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Community Forestry Field Day

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is planning a Community Forestry Field Day to be held Saturday, March 18, 2000. The City of Chehalis will be hosting this event at Recreation Park. Topics will include tree planting, tree selection, pruning techniques, soil properties, hazard tree evaluation, fertilizers/pesticides, and "How Communities Care for Their Trees" which will include tree ordinances, tree boards, etc. Beginning at 9 a.m., the concurrent sessions will continue throughout the day. A complete schedule of events and registration materials will be available soon. For more information, please call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

Northwest Flower and Garden Show

For those of you with the midwinter blues, the Northwest Flower and Garden Show is for you! Held at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle, February 2-6, this show features numerous display gardens, booths, 125 free seminars and demonstrations, and is a great opportunity to see the latest in tree and plant materials. For more information, visit www.gardenshow.com.

Landscaping for Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest. A new book by Russell Link, a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) biologist and landscape expert, shows gardeners how to plant and maintain their yards and rural property to attract birds, butterflies, and other native wildlife. This book is over 320 pages and includes 85 color illustrations of Pacific Northwest wildlife. This book is available in area bookstores and on the internet, at the regular retail price of \$29.95. Autographed copies can be ordered from the WDFW for \$28 (which includes tax, shipping and handling). Please call the TreeLink hotline at 1-800-523-TREE for order forms or with any questions.

Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Program Kit. This kit, available from the WDFW, contains pamphlets about landscaping with plants that provide food and cover for wildlife species, nest boxes for birds, hummingbird and butterfly gardening, plant and animal species particular to either eastern or western Washington, and lots of other materials. The kit also includes a weatherproof BWS yard sign, a frameable BWS enrollment certificate, and an ongoing subscription to *Crossing Paths* newsletter. The kit is available for \$5, and order forms are available by calling the TreeLink Hotline.

2000 ArborLeaf. Produced by the Washington Arbor Day Council, this popular publication includes Arbor Day celebration information and ideas. Inside you will also find a form for ordering seedlings for as low as \$9.50 per bundle of 20. To receive *ArborLeaf* and order forms, visit the WADC website at www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/Arborday.htm, or call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

February

- 2-6 Northwest Flower and Garden Show, Seattle. Call (206) 789-5333 for more information.
- 3 Adventures in Native Plant Stewardship. 7:30 p.m., Johnson Hall Room 106, University of Washington, Seattle. Please call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE for information.
- 3-4 Inland Northwest Tree, Turf, and Landscape Conference, Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Contact WSU Conferences & Institutes at 1-800-942-4978.
- 5 ISA Certification Exam, Finch Arboretum, Spokane. Call the PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285.
- 12 ISA Certification Exam, Roseburg, Oregon. Call the PNW-ISA for information.

March

- 13-15 Building With Trees National Conference. NADF, Nebraska City, NE. Contact the Lied Conference Center at 888-448-7337, for more information.
- 15 2000 Community Forestry Assistance Grant applications due to the U&CF by 4:30 p.m.
- 21 Tree Injection Seminar, Spokane. Call the PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285 for information.
- 23 Tree Injection Seminar, Seattle. Call the PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285.